

They don't have the power to do these things. I know they don't want to go into reorganization and bankruptcy as Delta Airlines did. But it is not going to be a horrible thing. Delta went in and emerged about a year and a half later. They reorganized, reduced expenses, altered and amended contracts and obligations, and they recently bought Northwest. They went bankrupt in 2005, and they came out leaner and more competitive and are now a viable company. But these CEOs—if you give them money, they are going to have less leverage with the unions, less leverage with their 7,000 automobile dealers, when Toyota has 1,500 automobile dealers. They are going to have less leverage with the lease agreements and health care agreements they entered into years ago, in a different situation, to deal with people's health care requests and demands at that time. They are stuck with that until they can break loose from it.

A bankruptcy judge whose motive would be to help them become leaner and more effective and sends them out as a viable entity so that jobs are saved and debts are fundamentally repaid—that would be the goal of reorganization and bankruptcy. I don't think we ought to be putting a lot of money into this company until we see it in a position that would actually break the chains of \$2,000 per car that is slowing them down, actually pulling them down hopelessly.

I thank the Chair for the opportunity to share some of my thoughts. I believe when we violate the principles of intervening in the free market and picking winners and losers, we are taking a great risk. If we do so, it ought to be done with the greatest of care, the least exposure to the taxpayer, and with the greatest potential for creating a successful company in the end.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

THE LIFE OF DR. RANDY PAUSCH

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Randy Pausch, who died this past July 25 from pancreatic cancer. Dr. Pausch was a rare hero who rose above his illness and fought to the end for increased public awareness of this devastating illness. In doing so, Dr. Pausch captured the attention of the country, inspiring people with his extraordinary grace, courage, and love of life.

Dr. Pausch was a professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, in my home State of Pennsylvania. He was an accomplished researcher and dedicated teacher.

Many people know what Randy did because of his famous "Last Lecture," which he delivered at Carnegie Mellon in September of last year. The video of the lecture became an inspirational phenomenon on the Internet. Literally millions of Americans wrote and

blogged about the transformational impact Dr. Pausch's lecture had upon them and their lives. Recently, "The Last Lecture" was turned into a best-selling book.

The lessons from Dr. Pausch that have inspired so many people are simple, but ones we all too easily can forget. He reminds us about achieving childhood dreams and maintaining a sense of childhood wonder. He also encourages his listeners to work hard, tell the truth, be earnest, help others, apologize for mistakes, listen to advice, and never, ever give up. He helps us remember how important it is to simply enjoy life and that each day is a gift.

As his disease progressed, Dr. Pausch was also an impassioned advocate for pancreatic cancer research. He testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, saying:

We don't have advocates for this disease because they don't live long enough. We don't have a Michael J. Fox because people die too fast. Pancreatic cancer is absolutely ruthless. Part of my job is to put a face on the disease.

So said Dr. Pausch so poignantly about this disease, because indeed pancreatic cancer is ruthless. It is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States of America. Seventy-five percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within 1 year of diagnosis. The 5-year survival rate is barely 5 percent. The survival rate for pancreatic cancer today is the same as it was 30 years ago.

Randy was only 45 when he died of pancreatic cancer on July 25 of this year. He left behind his wife Jai and their three children, Dylan, Logan, and Chloe.

Dr. Randy Pausch lived life to the fullest in every sense of that word, in every sense of that phrase. He was a loving husband and father, a dedicated educator, and an impassioned advocate. While his life was cut short by pancreatic cancer, his legacy for living is one we should all cherish. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of Dr. Pausch with the resolution that I and others have introduced. This resolution calls upon communities across this country to recognize November as National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and urges greater public awareness and resources for prevention, early detection, and treatment of this disease.

Let us, with this resolution, recognize the extraordinary gift that Dr. Pausch's life was to humanity and strive to make progress with this deadly, ruthless disease.

I commend Senator CLINTON for her leadership on this issue and for introducing this resolution. I am joined as a cosponsor by my colleague from Pennsylvania, Senator SPECTER. For their help, we are greatly appreciative.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING SENATORS

PETE DOMENICI

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, as the 110th Congress draws to a close, I rise to say thanks and farewell to one of our hardest working and most dedicated Members, Senator PETE DOMENICI of New Mexico.

PETE DOMENICI's story is truly the American dream come to life. The son of immigrants, PETE worked in the family grocery business, earned a college degree, taught school, obtained a law degree, and served in local government before his election to the Senate.

I cannot overlook one vitally important part of his biography, and that is his stint as a pitcher for a farm team of the old Brooklyn Dodgers. Who knows how much different history would be if his fast ball had had a little more "pop" to it?

For 36 years, however, baseball's loss has been the Senate's gain. The character developed by athletic competition—determination, hard work, a sense of fair play—is fully evident in PETE's six terms in office.

When the people of New Mexico chose PETE DOMENICI to be the longest serving Senator in their State's history, they chose wisely. His tireless work on a wide range of issues has helped to ensure a better future for all Americans, rural or urban, large State or small. He is a respected leader on some of the most important challenges of our time, such as strengthening energy security, curbing nuclear proliferation, and promoting sound Federal budget policy.

PETE's understanding of the budget process is matched only by his appreciation of the critical role fiscal responsibility plays. His service on the Budget Committee established his universal reputation as one of the Senate's hardest working, most intelligent, and best-informed Members. His focus on results rather than the limelight led one colleague to describe him as having "a terminal case of responsibility."

Senator DOMENICI is also a true champion for biomedical research, and especially for Americans suffering from mental illness. He has worked unceasingly over the years to increase the understanding and to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness. He has led the effort in the Senate—first in partnership with Senator Paul Wellstone, and later with our colleague Senator TED KENNEDY, to pass legislation that requires insurers to cover mental illness in the same way they cover physical illnesses.

Thankfully, those efforts have finally borne fruit with the inclusion of his legislation in the economic stimulus bill, the stabilization bill passed in the Senate. It is a victory not just for Senator DOMENICI's longstanding efforts but also for the estimated 50 million Americans who suffer from some kind of mental illness. It is a testament to his dedication and his compassion.

Senator DOMENICI's tenure has been marked by vision, common sense, and a